



VOMARC Elections

—By Robert KA5WSS

By the time you read this the midterm elections will be over, thankfully. It's time for a new election cycle, that of your VOMARC officers for 2022!

Our election will likely be less contentious than US elections, particularly if we fail to garner any additional nominations for the open positions. At this point only the current incumbents have been nominated. You can see a list of the current officers on the [VOMARC officer page](#).

We will accept nominations either provided to an officer before the November meeting or at the meeting itself. So please nominate someone or nominate yourself (including for my office of President) and let's gather at this month's meeting for one final vote in 2022.

OK, maybe just one more vote. The VOMARC Christmas Party, yeah or nay for 2022? Though COVID numbers are better this year than last, some might still have some concern about a large gathering indoors. Please bring your thoughts to this month's meeting so we can decide on what form our December meeting will take. If you can't make it to the meeting you can also send us an email with your thoughts.

Cycle 25 has been fairly decent so far and a number of activations from countries such as Benin, Togo, Tonga, Banaba Island, Papua New Guinea and Equatorial Guinea have been on the bands recently, just to name a few. Being able to hear distant stations is half the battle of working DX. This month's meeting topic, presented by Gary (NA6O), will be on finding and eliminating receive noise. Hope to see you all online on the 16th and then on the bands thereafter!

NEXT MEETING

Wed, November 16, 2022, 7:30pm
Zoom meeting room info will be emailed later.

Topic: **Finding and Eliminating Receive Noise**

Presenter: **Gary Johnson (NA6O)**

Minutes of the October 19 Meeting

PRESENT: Brian (N6CVO), John (W8EWL), Sanford (N7PIB), Ed (W1EJ), Simon (KN6MQP), Darrel (WD6BOR), Mike (WB6TMH), Kathleen (KM6URP), Bill (KH6GJV), Elizabeth (N6LY), Robert (KA5WSS), Steve

ADOPT MEETING MINUTES AS PUBLISHED in the newsletter? Motion made and seconded to accept minutes as written.

BUSINESS AND OFFICER REPORTS

VE Liaison - Elizabeth, N6LY

Upcoming sessions: Oct. 29th. - 7 people signed up. Masking and reservations are still required.

Radio Officer - Mike, WB6TMH

Need new net control ops for September and October. No electronics club at high school this year.

Secretary/Treasurer - Dave, KD6FIL

Club's insurance company has been purchased.

Vice President - Ed, W1EJ

Nothing to report.

President - Robert, KA5WSS

Officer nominations taken. Currently, the only nominees are the current incumbents. We will accept nominations up to and during the November meeting before taking a vote.

Will post in the November newsletter asking whether the membership wants to hold a Christmas Party in 2022.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next month's meeting topic: Finding and Eliminating Receive Noise - Gary NA6O

Mystery Box drawing - postponed until in-person meetings are restarted.

MEETING TOPIC

Pico Ballooning and Ham Radio - Brian N6CVO

—Submitted by Robert KA5WSS

VE Liaison News

—By Elizabeth N6LY

Our last test session of the year was held on October 29. We had six candidates testing, 3 for Technician class and 3 for Amateur Extra.

Congratulations to the new Ham Radio Operators and to those who upgraded.

I appreciate the help of our VEs, Sandford (N7PIB) and Kevin (K6YD). We also had a guest VE Steve (K6WW), from Fremont. Big thanks to him for coming up and helping.

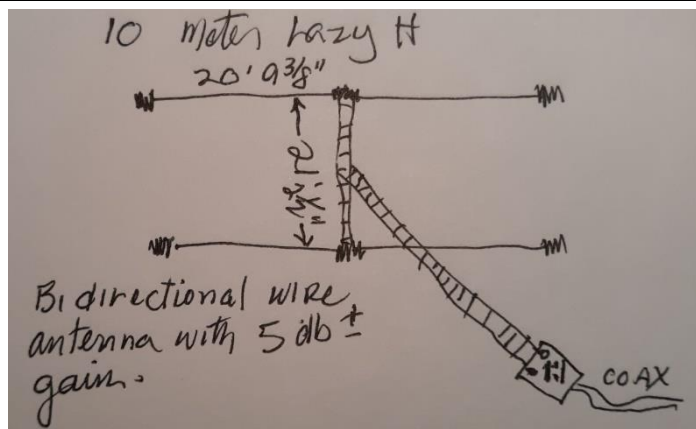
I will post next year's test sessions, in next month's newsletter and on our website, once they are finalized. Normally, they are the last Saturday of January, July, and October, plus at our April HamFest.

Thank you to all our VEs for a successful year of testing and congratulations to all who earned a new license and/or upgraded.

Lazy H Antenna

A few months ago I built a version of the Lazy H antenna for 10 meters for another backyard experiment. A Lazy H is basically 2 dipole antennas arranged in a stack connected by a transmission line. The dipoles that I used have 5/8 wavelength elements instead of 1/2 wave elements because the longer elements develop 3 db gain (this is what is called an Extended Double Zepp). Also 5/8 elements still give maximum energy broadside to the antenna, in both directions. If the elements are longer the pattern fragments into a clover leaf.

The dipoles are connected at their centers by 450 ohm ladder line. The spacing or height of the stack is .7 wavelength which is the point of maximum gain. This length is adjusted to the velocity factor of the ladder line .91 and is fed at its center with 450 ohm LL to a 1:1 balun near the transceiver. I also tried a 4:1 balun but it did not work as well. This antenna is designed for 10 meters but it works very well on 20, 17, 15, 12. The antenna tuner in the K-2 has no trouble matching it on the high bands and will also load it on 30 and 40.



Why bother? I'm fascinated by wire antennas and especially by wire antennas with gain. So far I have not been able to catch a good opening on 10 from the backyard but cycle 25 is still climbing.

Credit for this project goes to W8JI whose website is filled with great information on this and many other antennas.

—Submitted by Carl, N6TTV

DIGITAL LIBRARY OF AMATEUR RADIO AND COMMUNICATIONS

The [Internet Archive](#) has begun gathering content for the Digital Library of Amateur Radio and Communications (DLARC), which will be a massive online library of materials and collections related to amateur radio and early digital communications. The DLARC is funded by a significant grant from the Amateur Radio



Digital Communications ([ARDC](#)), a private foundation, to create a digital library that documents, preserves, and provides open access to the history of this community.

The library will be a free online resource that combines archived digitized print materials, born-digital content, websites, oral histories, personal collections, and other related records and publications. The goals of the DLARC are to document the history of amateur radio and to

provide freely available educational resources for researchers, students, and the general public.

—Submitted by Robert, KA5WSS

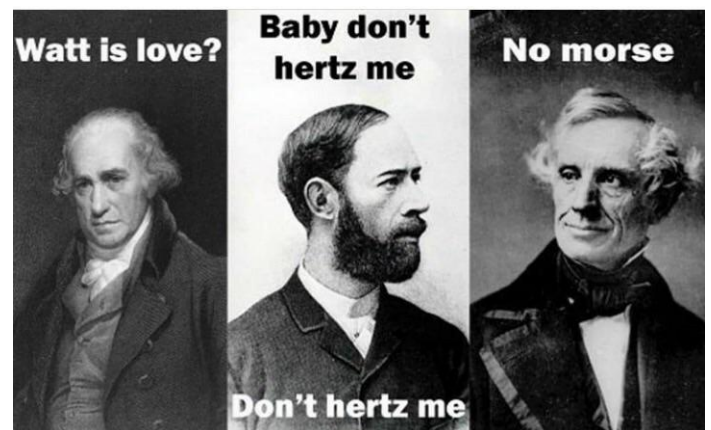
From The Archives

As many of you know, our former President Jim Hill (K6UUW - SK) knew many things. But did you also know that he was privy to the secrets of the Order of the [Wouff Hong](#)?



—Submitted by Robert, KA5WSS

Ham Humor



Misc

- **Sanford (N7PIB)** has worked at least 2,792 parks as part of the [Parks on the Air](#) (POTA) program.

- **Carl (N6TTV)** suffered bad conditions but managed to work 14 QSOs in the [Illinois QSO Party](#).
- **Robert (KA5WSS)** just surpassed 1,500 unique prefixes for his Mixed Mode CQ [WPX Award](#). He also just got an endorsement for the 60M band. He now has endorsements for 80-10M.
- **Frank (KG6N), Carl (N6TTV) and Robert (KA5WSS)** worked the RU DXpedition team at TY0RU in Benin on several bands. That team just moved on to the nearby country of Togo as 5V7RU. Other DXpeditions lately have taken place in Equatorial Guinea, Djibouti, Papua New Guinea, Banaba Island, Tonga and Palau. The bands are picking up. Speaking of solar conditions...
- Even **the Sun** appears to be happy with the progress of [Cycle 25](#) so far according to this recent NASA photo.



Added the [ARRL Rookie Roundup](#) CW event of December 18th to the [VOMARC event calendar](#).

—Submitted by Robert, KA5WSS

Parks on the Air Fun

I only activated a couple new parks this month, bringing my total of unique parks activated to 105.

I am working on my 4th Kilo, which will most likely be Point Reyes Seashore.

On November 5th, we went to Sonoma Coast to test out a new portable antenna. We recently acquired an ATAS 120A, so we wanted to try it out, for winter activating, when the weather isn't the best for sitting outside, which was the case on November 5th. A foggy, rainy day at the coast.

It did remarkably well. I made 175 contacts in just under 4 hours of CQing, including several DX QSOs- 2 in Venezuela, 1 in Mexico City, 1 in New Zealand, and 1 in Puerto Rico. There were also several in Canada, including Nova Scotia and Ontario.

I worked Six different bands- 40M, 20M, 17M, 15M, 12M, and 10M. Also tried 6M, but no luck



there.

Next we will be trying it out on a Tri-pod, for the nicer days.

Hoping to add some new parks soon, but it may not be until next year.

Map of QSOs on 11/5 at Sonoma Coast. Different colors indicate different bands.

—Submitted by Elizabeth, N6LY

LITTLE THINGS

(FROM THE OTHER SIDE OF THE HILL)

As usual I got my monthly memory jog from Robert (KA5WSS) to write something for the VOMARC newsletter. He suggested a write up about the Petaluma Emergency Preparedness Fair that the South County ACS group participated in. I pondered that for a while but couldn't think of enough highlights for a good article. So, what else could I write about? All I could remember were little things; but is that not part of the fun of this hobby of ours? Sure, sometimes we make the contact that has been eluding us for years of DX chasing, or get the bargain of a lifetime at a hamfest, and perhaps achieve some threshold in WAS, DXCC, SS, POTA, SOTA or whatever we hams like to brag about. I had none of those so here are the little things I sandwiched in between the more important parts of life.

On September 25th there was the annual "Emergency Preparedness Fair" at Walnut Park in Petaluma. The South County group set up a table with radio gear, brochures, and pamphlets about amateur radio. There were some Winlink messages sent and received but my set up for Winlink on HF, using my KX3, was a fail due to my not testing it in advance with the laptop. We got a lot of foot traffic, and interest from the public in ham radio, so that part was a success.

The SCRA meeting in early October was fun, not only because it was an in person meeting, but it was also the annual auction of excess club equipment, I didn't bid on much but I got a few small items and I picked up another 220 radio, an Alinco DR235 with a very ratty microphone cable. I ordered a new microphone and a replacement cable for the old one. The radio works great so I programmed in several North Bay repeaters and tried it out; contacts were scarce, only one answer from a dozen calls. My goal is to start a weekly net on 220.

Speaking of nets, that is another group of little things. There are of course our weekly Wednesday nets, our Tuesday and Saturday morning nets, the SCRA Tuesday evening service net, and the Sunday Evening SCRA ragchew net hosted by Chuck WA6VSG. That last one is fun and interesting so join in some time. Another great part of nets is to be net control. You get to know the other members, you even start to remember the names that go with the call signs, and it prepares you to provide a needed service when "it" hits the fan. For the coming year I would like to hear some new net control operators. You don't have to do it for the whole month, I'll let you take one of my eight weeks.

Another small thing to do is helping our fellow hams. I had the great opportunity Jack, K6ZMF, fix up his HF wire and reconnect his Ed Fong for 2 Meters. He did get back on 20 CW while I was there and has since been heard on our breakfast net. I may have to pay another visit since he has since faded away again. I did retrieve the Mystery Box so it is again up for grabs when we meet in person again. Jack, call me if you need an assist when you get back from skiing.

The South County ACS group did set up stations around Petaluma for the "Great Shakeout" on October 22nd. A couple hams were up on the hill by the water tank; passed some voice traffic and I think some digital messages. Most of us were at Lucchesi Park where we set up VHF and HF stations. I had my IC7300 with a NORCAL Doublet antenna and we made numerous contacts around the country on SSB and CW but none with the Marin County group. I guess my antenna was not NVIS enough. Small results but good experience and of course fun.

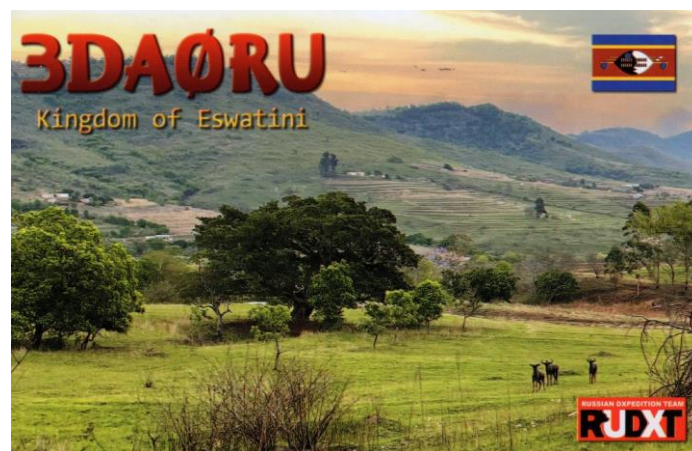
Another fun thing last month, Pacificon. I wanted to go on Saturday but life got in the way, so I had to settle for Sunday only. The best part was having someone else drive, Thanks Steve (KB6DTL) for driving again this year. We got there and stumbled around the swap meet in

the dark but we had headlamps. I bought a few more “little things” and my best find was an Emtech ZM2 Z-match QRP tuner. Yeah I already have one but this was a bargain. A minor repair was required but it works great. Steve got some bargains too, but I’ll let him write his own story. We also toured the vendors and looked at all the latest and greatest, but we resisted. I did purchase the last 200A in line (power poles in and out) unit that displays voltage, current, watts, Ampere Hours, and Watt Hours. Still figuring it out.

So, what else did I do? I played with the Ft-897 and the FC-20 tuner, put up and took down antennas, repaired a few things and broke some, got on the air a few times for SKCC events, and even found time to activate a few summits for SOTA. The last SOTA was Mount Wittenberg in the Point Reyes NP. Only one point for an elevation gain of 1300 feet; but a beautiful trail with only a few other humans, no spectacular views but a serene and beautiful summit.



QSL Card Inbox



Although I already had a card for an Eswatini contact, this card confirming contacts with 3DA0RU provided two new band countries for me. The 10M QSO was for FT8 and the 17M QSO was using SSB.

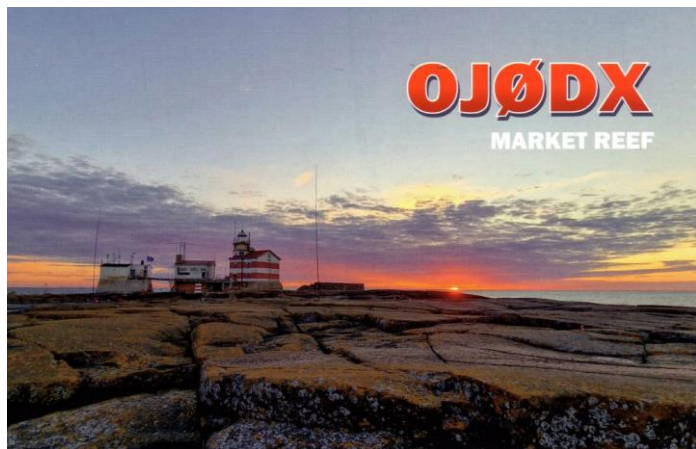
QSL Card Inbox (Continued)



Member of The Radio Society of Sri Lanka
4S6NCH



The one and only station from Sri Lanka that I've worked is 4S6NCH. So this is an All Time New One (ATNO) for me. It actually confirms two contacts again, both using FT8, on the 20M and 17M bands.



Here's another ATNO. This card confirms contact with OJØDX on [Market Reef](#). The island of Market Reef is shared by Finland and Sweden and counts as a separate DXCC entity. The card confirms an SSB contact on the 20M band.

—Submitted by Robert KA5WSS

THE VOMARC WIRELESS

VOLUME 26 EDITION 10 A PUBLICATION OF VOMARC, THE VALLEY OF THE MOON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB – W6AJF

Frank C. Jones – W6AJF

Honorary President in Perpetuity

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Robert Barron KA5WSS – President

Ed Jacobson, W1EJ – Vice President

Dave Dammuller, KD6FIL – Secretary/Treasurer

Mike Miller, WB6TMH – Radio Officer

Moe Llanes, KI6JNU – ACS Unit Leader

Elizabeth Morris-Mowrey, N6LY – VE Liaison

Darrel Jones, WD6BOR – Station Trustee for W6AJF

Eileen Adams, KG6QNT – Editor

Robert Barron, KA5WSS – Webmeister

"Receipt of the Wireless is one of the most sought after benefits of membership in VOMARC."—S. Marler

WEB PAGE: <http://www.vomarc.org/>

Nets are held every Wednesday night at 19:30 (7:30 P.M.) local, except meeting nights on the 145.350 repeater, -600 kHz, PL 88.5 Hz.

Breakfast Nets are held every Tuesday and Saturday morning at 7:30 AM on the 146.205, +600, PL 88.5 Hz repeater.

Comments and submissions of material may be sent to:

Eileen@vom.com

—OR—

Valley of the Moon ARC, Inc.

C/O Sonoma Police Department

175 First Street West

Sonoma, CA 95476

ACS

NET CONTROL ASSIGNMENTS

	Name	Call
JANUARY	MOE	KI6JNU
FEBRUARY	SCOTT	KJ6QIQ
MARCH	SCOTT	KJ6QIQ
APRIL	JIM	K6UUW
MAY	DICK	KF6FZM
JUNE	MOE	KI6JNU
JULY		
AUGUST	BILL	KJ6EIG
SEPTEMBER	SAM	W5LTP
OCTOBER	DICK	FK6FZM
NOVEMBER	MIKE	WB6TMH
DECEMBER	DARREL	WD6BOR

VOMARC

NET CONTROL ASSIGNMENTS

	Name	Call
JANUARY	ROBERT	KA5WSS
FEBRUARY	DARREL	WD6BOR
MARCH	MOE	KI6JNU
APRIL	DAVE	KD6FIL
MAY	ED	W1EJ
JUNE	FRANK	KG6N
JULY	ED	W1EJ
AUGUST	CARL	N6TTV
SEPTEMBER	SAM	W5LTP
OCTOBER	DICK	KF6FZM
NOVEMBER	MIKE	WB6TMH
DECEMBER	DARREL	WD6BOR

VOMARC MEMBERSHIP 2022

Membership Dues: \$15/year individual; \$5/year family member at same address.

VOMARC encourages its members to join the ARRL. More information is available at www.arrl.org.

QST is available to blind and physically handicapped individuals on audio cassette from the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Call 1-800-424-8567.

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Address: _____ APT: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

VOMARC Membership: Complimentary with Class—Date: _____

Membership Moment, From the Database Queen:

Dues may be mailed to VOMARC in care of the Sonoma Police Department, 175 1st St West, CA 95476, or brought to the next meeting. Your check should be made payable to: **VOMARC**.